

Message Text

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PAGE 01 DAR ES 00895 020655Z
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01
INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15
USIA-06 AID-05 COME-00 EB-08 FRB-03 TRSE-00
XMB-02 OPIC-03 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 STR-07 CEA-01
INT-05 GSA-02 IO-13 AGRE-00 /124 W
-----085444 021130Z /14

R 020430Z MAR 78
FM AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7802
INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN
AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN
AMEMBASSY DAKAR
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA
AMEMBASSY TOKYO

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CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY
E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ECON, BTRA, PEPR, JA, TZ
SUBJECT: JAPANESE ECONOMIC MISSION TO AFRICA

REF: TOKYO 2710(NOTAL)

1. JAPANESE ECONOMIC AND TRADE MISSION DESCRIBED REFTEL VISITED
TANZANIA FEBRUARY 15-19. TWENTY-SEVEN-MAN GROUP HELD TALKS
WITH MINISTERS OF FINANCE AND PLANNING; TRADE; INDUSTRIES;
WORKS; AGRICULTURE; COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSPORT; AND PRINCIPAL
SECRETARY FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS. DELEGATION ALSO CALLED ON
PRESIDENT NYERERE AND VICE PRESIDENT JUMBE.

2. FROM TANZANIAN POINT OF VIEW, VISIT PROVIDED OPPORTUNITY TO
AIR CONCERNS ABOUT JAPANESE POLICIES. FINANCE AND PLANNING
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MINISTER MTEI SLATED JAPAN FOR ITS SLUGGISH AID PERFORMANCE,
CITING SEVERAL PROJECTS WHICH WERE STALLED BECAUSE OF "VACILLATING
NATURE" OF JAPANESE AID POLICY AND CUMBERSOME JAPANESE
PROCEDURES. TRADE MINISTER RULEGURA DWELLED ON OVERWHELMING
TANZANIA-JAPAN TRADE IMBALANCE IN JAPAN'S FAVOR. (TANZANIA
CLAIMED PURCHASES IN 1976 FROM JAPAN OF ABOUT 60 MILLION DOLLARS
AGAINST JAPANESE PURCHASES OF 11.5 MILLION DOLLARS' WORTH OF

TANZANIAN RAW MATERIALS.)

3. JAPANESE MISSION WAS ALSO ATTACHED ON JAPAN'S TRADE WITH RHODESIA AND SOUTH AFRICA. JAPANESE SAID ALL PURCHASES OF RHODESIAN CHROME ORE THROUGH SOUTH AFRICA HAD BEEN STOPPED AND DENIED THERE WAS OTHER TRADE. VISITORS DEFENDED TRADE WITH SOUTH AFRICA AS CHROME AND URANIUM WERE "VITAL TO THE LIFE OF JAPAN." JAPAN HAD NO INVESTMENTS IN SOUTH AFRICA AND ITS TRADE THERE WAS "WITHIN THE SCOPE PERMITTED UNDER UN AGREEMENTS." MISSION LEADER FUMIHIKO KONO SAID JAPAN WAS TRYING TO FIND OTHER SOURCES FOR THESE MINERALS BEFORE DECREASING ITS TRADE WITH SOUTH AFRICA.

4. KONO EXPLAINED AT PRE-DEPARTURE PRESS CONFERENCE THAT JAPAN HAD IN THE PAST BEEN BURDENED BY ITS INVOLVEMENT IN SOUTHEAST ASIAN COUNTRIES WHICH HAD SUFFERED EXTENSIVE DAMAGE IN SECOND WORLD WAR. JAPAN WAS NOW THINKING OF THE FUTURE AND WOULD DO ITS "UTMOST TO ASSIST NON-WHITE COUNTRIES IN AFRICA." KONO SAID TANZANIA HAD ALREADY ASKED FOR A CREDIT OF 16 MILLION DOLLARS TO IMPROVE TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSPORTATION. JAPAN WAS READY TO CONSIDER OTHER TANZANIAN PROPOSALS. KONO SAID ONE MEANS OF RESOLVING THE TRADE IMBALANCE WOULD BE ASSISTANCE IN HELPING TANZANIA PRODUCE GOODS FOR EXPORT. HE REPORTEDLY ACKNOWLEDGED JAPAN WAS DRAGGING ITS FEET ON IMPLEMENTING PROJECTS AGREED UPON WITH OTHER GOVERNMENTS.

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5. COMMENT. JAPANESE MISSION'S VISIT WAS OBVIOUSLY OF CONSIDERABLE INTEREST TO TANGOV. TANZANIA TAKES IT AS ITS DUE THAT JAPAN SHOULD BE CONTRIBUTING TO ITS DEVELOPMENT AND WILL WATCH CLOSELY TO SEE IF JAPAN FOLLOWS THROUGH ON VAGUE PROMISE BY KONO TO DO MORE IN AFRICA.
SPAIN

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